

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:) Examiner: GAMETT, Daniel C.
Wei-Qiang GAO)
Application Serial No. 09/849,868) Art Unit: 1647
Filed: May 4, 2001) Confirmation No. 1085
For: HAIR CELL DISORDERS) Attorney's Docket No. 39766-0035 C1
) Customer No. 25213
)
)

FILED VIA EFS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
accompanying a Request for Continued Examination
under 35 U.S.C. § 1.114

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria Virginia, 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination under 35 U.S.C. § 1.114 and is in response to the final Office Action mailed September 24, 2007. This RCE and this Preliminary Amendment are believed to be timely filed within three months of the mailing date of the final Office Action.

Please enter the following amendments to the claims and to consider the following arguments.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 13.